



CALPEEK

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"3 STRIKES" LAW: POLITICAL WINNERS & LOSERS.

Editor's note: Now that AB 971 is the law in Calif., CALPEEK takes a look at the political winners & losers in this drama over enactment of the "3 Strikes" law. Here's our report & analysis...

...Some of the **winners** are not as obvious as in other battles because no one knows for sure what the overall impact of the "3 Strikes" law will be. That could take another 90-120 days. But based upon what we do know, here are some of the winners:

...1) Assemblymen Jones & Costa - Bill Jones(R) and Jim Costa(D), both hoping to win higher office, will benefit politically as co-authors of this law. 2) Lawyers - need you ask who wins when a law has as many flaws as AB 971. This law could be tied up in the courts for years. And 3) Judges - it will be up to judges to determine if a suspected criminal should be charged with a 3rd strike. This is a power they didn't have before...

...As for the **losers**, the two biggest were the CA District Attorneys Assn. (CDAA) and the CA State Sheriffs Assn., whose lobbying was ineffective in persuading Gov. Pete Wilson that he was making a major mistake in supporting AB 971. Another *potential loser* is CA's huge educational establishment, especially if "3 Strikes" becomes that huge "sucking sound" machine which inhales vast amounts of general fund moneys. Another loser might be the court system, which could become bogged down because criminal defendants insist on going to trial, instead of taking a plea bargain. As for CA taxpayers, no matter which "3 Strikes" bill the governor would have signed, all would eventually require the construction of more prisons and the hiring of more correctional staff...

...Shifting to Gov. Wilson, who this past week (Mar. 8-9) kicked off his reelection campaign, temporarily he

looks pretty good, but that could change in the weeks and months ahead if more problems emerge from this flawed new law...

...FYI: There is some talk in Sacto that various law & order groups may link up with the educational establishment to put Assemblyman Richard Rainey's "3 Strikes" alternative, AB 1568, on the November ballot as a competing measure to Mike Reynolds' original "3 Strikes" initiative. Just rumblings, nothing solid yet. Why is Reynolds going ahead with his initiative? He says it's an insurance policy against meddling by the State Legislature. Stay tuned...

ORANGE COUNTY DEMOCRATS GEAR UP FOR 1994.

Editor's note: About 500 Demo Party activists from **Orange Co.** held their annual convention Mar. 4-5. Although insiders rarely think of Orange County as being a huge bastion of Demo voters, the fact is that in raw numbers, Orange Co. is the 4th largest behind Alameda, San Diego and L.A. Counties with nearly 430,000 registered Demos. These voters are split up all over the county and thus there are only a few districts where Demos are competitive. But in terms of a State-wide **primary**, Orange Co. is fertile ground for candidates. Here is our report on some of the highlights from the convention...

● **Straw Poll** - About 280 of the 500 delegates cast ballots in the straw poll. For Governor: Kathleen Brown got 50%, John Garamendi 41% and Tom Hayden 9%. For Sec. of State: Gwen Moore 42%, Tony Miller 29% and Mike Woo 29%. AG: Tom Umberg 73% and Arlo Smith 27%. Treasurer: Phil Angelides 60% and David Roberti 40%. Controller: Kathleen Connell 37%, Rusty Areias 37%, Brad Sherman 21% and Don Perata 5%. Insurance Commissioner: Art Torres 76% and Burt Margolin 24%...

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● **Brown vs. Garamendi** - With about 3 months to go before the primary, Garamendi seems very relaxed and causal about this contest, because he knows he's got nowhere to go but up. Brown, on the other hand, is more cautious. In football terms, she's sitting on a lead and playing defense. In the overall scheme of things, Brown wants to ignore Garamendi (and Hayden) and if the news media doesn't stay on top of this primary, those **debates** which have been promised may never materialize. Brown undoubtedly wants to hold off on debates for as long as possible, knowing that a debate gaffe could prove harmful. Garamendi's big problem continues to be money --- and only a strong showing in an early debate or perhaps a new poll --- will change this situation. So Orange Co. Demos probably came away with the same feeling that CALPEEK did: with 90 days to go, this is Brown's race to win or lose. The question Demos in Orange Co. and elsewhere have to decide is whether they feel confident that Brown can beat GOP Gov. Pete Wilson???

● **Roberti's Speech** - Other than the presentation by the two leading Demo candidates for governor, the real highlight of the convention was a luncheon speech by State Sen. David Roberti, who talked about his ordeal of facing an April 12th recall organized by certain segments of the **gun lobby**. Roberti described some of the recall advocates as "extreme Aryan rightwingers." And Roberti said the CRP's pro-gun resolution was NOT representative of most Republicans, but rather the work of "single issue fanatics." He summed up by saying, "Real wars are not budgeted. And a recall war will test your will because they come when least expected."...

● **Beat Bob** - Although Orange Co. Demos have high hopes of holding onto to their one Assembly seat (Umburg's) and perhaps picking up a second one (Pringle's) -- plus tying up State Sen. Rob Hurtt -- the #1 target of O.C. Demos is U.S. Rep. Bob Dornan(R). Until late last week there were 3 Demos in the running: frontrunner Mike Farber, John Ivler and Don Payne. But at the last minute, Madelene Arakelian abandoned her suicide run against Marian Bergeson for an open Bd. of Supes seat and jumped into this Demo primary. She has name ID and could pump her own money into this race. Consultant David Vaporean, who used to handle mostly GOP candidates, will run Arakelian's campaign. Stay tuned...

79th A.D. SPECIAL UPDATE: DEMOS HAVE A LOCK.

Editor's note: The special election to fill the unexpired term of Steve Peace(D), now a State Senator from this same San Diego area, will be held April 12th. Guess what? No runoff, because it's a Demo only affair. Here is CALPEEK's update & analysis...

...There are 5 Demos running in this special and no Republicans. Yes, there is a GOPer who is expected to file papers for the regular June and November elections, but John J. Vogel III didn't take out papers for the special. What this means is that the Demo special winner can go directly to Sacto to be sworn in...

...But the big question is whether the Demo who wins the special gets a break from the other Demos in the race. In other words, will the other Demos drop out? No one seems to have a clue, but most suspect the answer is NO WAY...

...The 5 Demos include Chula Vista Mayor Tim Nader; community college trustee Denise Morena Ducheny; David Valladolid, an aide to Assembly Speaker Willie Brown; newspaper publisher John Warren; and Lettie Rodgers, a staffer to former State Sen. Wadie Deddeh. Most insiders think this special is a 3-way contest between Nader, Ducheny and Valladolid --- with almost a full month of campaigning left...

...Ducheny and Valladolid have split some key labor endorsements, with Ducheny getting SEIU and Valladolid getting the Building Trades & AFSCME. Ducheny, who has been running for almost 2 years, also has backing from NOW. Nader sports endorsements from the Chula Vista POA, firefighters and is the regional spokesperson for the "3 Strikes" initiative. Crime is Nader's top issue and he is making a concerted effort to woo GOP voters. Remember, GOPers can cross-over party lines to vote in a special...

...FYI: This race also has turned into the Full Employment Act for consultants. Valladolid has hired consultant Richard Ybarra, while Lisa Fisher is handling daily mgt. Nader has hired Chris Crotty as his campaign director, with consultant Paul Kinney handling mail and other media. And Ducheny has hired consultant Bob Glaser. Stay tuned...

1994: UPDATE ON RUN FOR STATEWIDE OFFICES

Editor's note: Here are a few items of interest regarding the June 1994 primary...

- **CSEA Endorsements** - The powerful CA State Employees Assn.(CSEA) has issued its slate of endorsements for 1994. The endorsement winners are Kathleen Brown(D) for governor; Gray Davis(D) for LG; Phil Angelides(D) for treasurer; Gwen Moore(D) for SOS; Tom Umberg(D) for AG; Delaine Eastin for Supt. of Public Instruction; and both Art Torres(D) and Burt Margolin(D) for insurance commissioner. CSEA left *open* the endorsement for controller...

- **U.S. Senate** - Demo sources believe that by the end of March, U.S. Rep. Michael Huffington(R) of Santa Barbara will have spent around \$5 million on TV in an effort to build name ID. He was all over the tube during the Olympic Games. FYI: Look for former Congressman Bob Lagomarsino, the highly respected ex lawmaker that Huffington defeated in the 1992 GOP primary, to endorse ex Congressman Bill Dannemeyer. That shouldn't come as a shock...

- **Controller** - Few insiders were surprised to learn that BoE Chair Brad Sherman(D) quit the controller's primary in favor of seeking reelection to the BoE, where generally he has been given very high marks for his performance. Sherman will seek reelection in the 4th District. In a news release, Sherman said his "keep options open" strategy backfired and that it caused his fundraising to self-destruct after "political pundits" had a field day with his earlier decision to file declarations of intent for 3 BoE seats, plus controller...

...In the meantime, Assemblyman Rusty Areias became the 3rd Demo candidate to officially declare for Gray Davis's controller's job. Areias launched a 4-day, 9-city announcement tour. FYI: Alameda Co. Sup. Don Perata made his official "stealth" announcement Feb. 24th, in Oakland...

...On the GOP side, candidate John Morris announced the support of 18 prominent business leaders, including David Packard and ex Sec. of State George Shultz...

- **Attorney General** - First term incumbent Dan Lungren(R) officially kicked off his reelection bid on Mar. 7th in Sacto. Earlier that day he appeared and

spoke at the "3 Strikes" bill signing ceremony in L.A. Lungren is unopposed in the GOP primary. Stay tuned...

GOP SPECIAL FOR 43rd A.D. BEGINS TO HEAT UP.

Editor's note: Gov. Wilson called a special election for May 3rd to fill the unexpired term of former GOP Assemblyman Pat Nolan, who resigned after pleading guilty to political corruption. A runoff date has been set for June 28th...

...What's of interest in this race is that 24 members of the GOP Assembly Caucus have decided to play *king-maker*. Instead of staying neutral, the GOP caucus went on a recruiting drive. They tried to interest Glendale Councilman Larry Zarian, but he said no. Now the search committee has come up with L.A. Muni Court Judge James Rogan, who used to be a deputy DA in L.A. Rogan also used to be a Democrat, but switched in 1988. Already in the race is 11-year LAPD veteran Peter Repovich and two other Republicans...

...Berndt Schine, who is Repovich's campaign director, says, "It's a sad day when 24 elected Republicans support a lifelong Democrat in a special election." In a profile in the L.A. Daily Journal, it notes that Rogan was an active member of both the CDP and the L.A. County Demo Central Cmt. during the 1980s. What it means is that Rogan never publicly supported Ronald Reagan. Whether that means much these days is unclear, but it's certainly some good opposition research and leaves Rogan somewhat vulnerable...

...In the meantime, Repovich has won the endorsement and support of the L.A. Police Protective League...

...FYI: there are at least two Demo who took out papers to battle Nolan. Former Asst. U.S. Atty. Adam Schiff has signed up for the regular election, but as of deadline time had not made a decision as to whether to run in the special. Stay tuned...

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CALPEEK's 1994 Directory of Campaign Consultants is now for sale to subscribers and non-subscribers alike. Cost for CALPEEK subscribers is just \$10, while the cost to non-subscribers is \$40. The directory will be given away FREE with all new subscriptions. No invoicing, no credit cards - checks only. For info call (310)659-0205. This directory is sold via subscription only. No retail sales. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK's ETCETERA: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

- **Prop. 172 Rocky Horror Show** - Remember the 1/2 cent sales tax hike that Calif. voters approved last year, with the money earmarked for local law enforcement? Cops and DAs all over Calif. are screaming bloody murder because many County Boards of Supes are not passing the money along the way it was intended. It's a real embarrassment for Gov. Pete Wilson(R), Assembly Speaker Willie Brown(D) and for Orange Co. Sheriff Brad Gates, who was the chair of the YES on 172 Cmt. This could be one of the reasons why Gates decided not to run for LG. Will this issue be ignored by Wilson and the Legislature???

- **COPS Dump on Gov. Pete** - The CA Organization of Police & Sheriffs (COPS) have been after Gov. Pete Wilson for months about his parole policy, which COPS exec. director Al Angele says permits dangerous parole violators to stay free in an effort to save money. COPS have begun distributing a 6-page memo called "The Calif. Law Enforcer" which explains how Wilson's policy works and why COPS call this whole thing, "Parolegate." The CA Demo Party has begun to pick up on this COPS stuff and it could become a sticky mess for Wilson...

- **Hardison Wins in Torrance** - 2-term Torrance Councilwoman Dee Hardison was elected mayor of L.A. County's 4th largest city Mar. 8, defeating council colleague Bill Applegate by a margin of 479 votes. Hardison got 51.2%. Hardison was backed by the popular retiring mayor, Katy Geissert, as well as by former mayor James Armstrong and the influential Torrance chapter of the League of Women Voters. The LWV's long record of backing the winning candi-

date in the mayor's race thus remains perfect. A nice win for Skelton, Grover & Assoc., who managed Hardison's campaign. FYI: Former councilman Dan Walker, who gave up his council seat two years ago to run for the Assembly, got his job back. Stay tuned...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- The CA Demo Party(CDP) has realigned its senior staff to prepare for the '94 election cycle. CDP Ex. Dir Susan Kennedy takes on full responsibility for the '94 coordinated campaign; Deputy Ex. Dir. Susan Henderson becomes mgn. director of the party; Press Sec. Joel Maliniak becomes Communications Dir.; and Bob Mulholland steps down as Political Director to become campaign advisor to the '94 coordinated campaign...

- Sacto-based Nelson Consulting (as in John Nelson) has moved to larger offices at 926 "J" St., Ste. 1220, Sacto 95814. New phone is (916)447-1220. Also the firm has hired Mark Bogetich as a research consultant...

- The Claremont Institute has named James N. Ludington as its Director of Development. Previously, Ludington was with Hughes Missile Systems...

CALPEEK'S MARKETPLACE NETWORK

- **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** Relations Director. The Western Mobilehome Parkowners Assn. (WMA), a State-wide property rights trade association, is seeking a Regional Representative for its San Diego/Imperial office. Responsibilities include: grass roots membership organizing; lobbying local governments on behalf of property rights, and candidate selection and recruitment. Position requires: B.A. in political science or a related field; demonstrated ability to be a self starter; five years direct political campaign experience; excellent written and verbal communication skills; and a demonstrated ability to organize. Some evening meetings and a fair amount of travel required. Starting salary \$46,000 plus travel allowance, health, dental, vision and retirement. Resumes to: John Bovee, State Director for Local Government, WMA, 1007 - 7th Street, 3rd Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE...

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